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January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

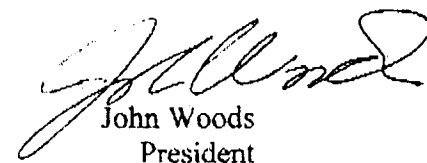
Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

During the course of the past several years, there has been a lot of saber-rattling going on between Microsoft and the department of Justice over this lawsuit. I personally do not think that the ultimate goal of the government to break up Microsoft would have survived a Supreme Court review, but the very threat seems to have tamed Microsoft into this settlement.

In the unlikely event that Microsoft would have ever been broken up, it could have been beneficial for my company. However, it must be quickly said that the Microsoft product line is deservedly superior to anything on the market today. The long-term effects of having Microsoft splintered through this lawsuit would have been devastating for most consumers as well as many IT companies.

This settlement is therefore good. Even though its terms encompass more than the lawsuit did, it has been accepted by both sides and, with its acceptance, the struggle between our government and Microsoft is over. I am hoping that this in itself will be enough to allow all of us to put this behind us and move forward.

Sincerely,



John Woods
President

CC: Senator Don Nickles